



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE PUBLISHES FINAL WATERFOWL HUNTING REGULATIONS

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has published final regulations for 1984-85 "late" migratory bird hunting seasons. The regulations, published in the September 24, 1984, Federal Register, prescribe open seasons, hunting hours, hunting areas, and daily bag and possession limits for waterfowl and certain other migratory birds. "Late" seasons are those opening September 29 or thereafter.

The waterfowl hunting regulations are similar to last year's, except that more restrictive regulations have been developed in the Pacific Flyway for cackling and dusky Canada geese, white-fronted geese, and Pacific brant, and in the Mississippi Flyway for Mississippi Valley Population Canada geese. Restrictive regulations will be continued to reduce the harvest of black ducks. An experimental permit season for whistling swans will be held for the first time in North Carolina.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is continuing its program of stabilized duck hunting regulations into the 1984-85 hunting season. This is the final year of a 5-year cooperative study with Canada in which duck hunting regulations have been held generally constant in order to better determine the effect of hunting regulations on waterfowl populations.

Because of time constraints and the many State and local variations in hunting regulations, the Fish and Wildlife Service no longer publishes a summary of Federal late season regulations by Flyway. Hunters are advised to check with the appropriate State fish and wildlife agency to obtain complete regulations for the areas where they plan to hunt.